

You died, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fountain of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself ut upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of mercy for us, 1 st in You.

oly God, Holy Mighty O Dy Immortal One, mercy on us and whole world. (3 t

US, King of mercy, I st in You!



#### Prayer for all souls

Prayer of St. Gertrude the their live

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."

St. Gertrude the Great was born in Germany in 1263. She was a Benedictine Nun, and meditated on the Passion st, which many times t floods of tears to her She did many es, and Our Lady ed to her many times. I Soul passed away in November 16<sup>th</sup> is her

ember 10

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Abortion isn't a lesser evil, it's a crime. Taking one life to save another, that's what the Mafia does. It's a crime. It's absolute evil. **Pope Francis.** It's an



Thursday of the Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time, Volume 167, September 14, 2023. **Today's Bible Readings** 

Latin Rite 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Nm 21:4b-9

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35. 36-37, 38 2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11

# Gospel:

Syro-Malabar Rite

Luke 24:13-27

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Svro-Malankara Rite 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Matthew 24:29-36

Gospel: Luke 21:5-11, 25-28

## **Gospel:** Jn 3:13-17 Meditation: Do Good to Those Who Hate You

What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is grace - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. His love embraces saint and sinner alike. God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return.

Give and forgive - the two wings of prayer Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD) describes Jesus double precept togive and forgive as two essential wings of prayer:

Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given you. These are the two wings of prayer on which it flies to God. Pardon the offender what has been committed, and give to the person in need" (Sermon 205.3). "Let us graciously and fervently perform these two types of almsgiving, that is, giving and forgiving, for we in turn pray the Lord to give us things and not to repay our evil deeds" (Sermon 206.2).

#### Bless and do not curse

Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe in and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction. That is why Paul the Apostle tells those who know the love and mercy of Jesus Christ to "bless and not curse.. nor take revenge.. and to overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:14,17,21). Do you know the power of God's love, mercy, and righteousness (moral goodness) for overcoming evil with good?

Lord Jesus, your love brings freedom and pardon. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and set my heart free with your merciful love that nothing may make me lose my temper, ruffle my peace, take away my joy, nor make me bitter towards anyone. \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1st Reading: Nm 21:4b-9

With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses, "Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We are disgusted with this wretched food!" In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents, which bit the people so that many of them died. Then the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you. Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses, "Make a saraph and mount it on a pole, and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live." Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole, and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

#### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 R. (see 7b) Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Hearken, my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter mysteries from of old.

#### R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

While he slew them they sought him and inquired after God again, Remembering that God was their rock and the Most High God, their redeemer.

#### R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But they flattered him with their mouths and lied to him with their tongues,

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The Bible in one year: September

01 2 Chron 28–29, Hos 6, 1 Cor 4–5, Ps 103:17–22 02 2 Chron 30–31, Hos 7–8, 1 Cor 6, Ps 104:1–8 03 2 Chron 32–33, Hos 9, 1 Cor 7:1–20, Ps 104:9-15 04 2 Chron 34, Hos 10, 1 Cor 7:21–40, Ps 104:16–22 05 2 Chron 35– 36, Hos 11–12, 1 Cor 8, Ps 104:23–29 06 Ezra 1:1– 2:41, Hos 13-14, 1 Cor 9, Ps 104:30-35 07 Ezra 2:42-3:13, Joel 1, 1 Cor 10, Ps 105:1-8 08 Ezra 4-6, Joel 2:1-15, 1 Cor 11:1-16, Ps 105:9–15 09 Ezra 7, Joel 2:16–32, 1 Cor 11:17–34, Ps 105:16-22 10 Ezra 8-9, Joel 3, 1 Cor 12, Ps 105:23-29 11 Ezra 10, Amos 1, 1 Cor 13, Ps 105:30–36 12 Neh 1-3, Amos 2–3, 1 Cor 14:1–25, Ps 105:37-45 13 Neh 4 -5. Amos 4, 1 Cor 14:26-40, Ps 106:1–5 14 Neh 6:1–7:36, Amos 5, 1 Cor 15:1–29, Ps 106:6–12 15 Neh 7:37–8:18, Amos 6, 1 Cor 15:30–58, Ps 106:13–20 16 Neh 9, Amos 7, 1 Cor 16, Ps 106:21–27 17 Neh 10, Amos 8–9, 2 Cor 1:1–12, Ps 106:28–34 18 Neh 11-12, Obad, 2 Cor 1:13-2:17, Ps 106:35-41 19 Neh 13, Jonah 1, 2 Cor 3, Ps 106:42–48 20 Tobit 1–3, Jonah 2–3, 2 Cor 4, Ps 107:1–7 21 Tobit 4–5, Jonah 4, 2 Cor 5, Ps 107:8–14 22 Tobit 6–8, Micah 1–2, 2 Cor 6, Ps 107:15-21 23 Tobit 9-11, Micah 3-4, 2 Cor 7:1-8:11, Ps 107:22-28 24 Tobit 12-14, Micah 5, 2 Cor 8:12-9:15, Ps 107:29-35 25 Jdth 1-2, Micah 6, 2 Cor 10, Ps 107:36-43 26 Jdth 3-5, Micah 7, 2 Cor 11:1-19, Ps 108:title-5 27 Jdth 6-7, Nah 1–2, 2 Cor 11:20–33, Ps 108:6-13 28 Jdth 8, Nah 3, 2 Cor 12–13, Ps 109:title-5 29 Jdth 9–11, Hab 1, Gal 1, Ps 109:6–12 30 Jdth 12–13, Hab 2, Gal 2, Ps 109:13–19

#### -----Resources

Importance of the Mass Mystical Stigmata What is Charismatic Renewal? The Real Meaning of <u>Christmas</u> Why should I Confess?

#### Gallery

<u>Articles</u> **Daily Reflections** E-books Novena **Prayers** Saints Songs Testimonials

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**Live Channels** 

Though their hearts were not steadfast toward him, nor were they faithful to his covenant. R. Do not forget the works of the Lord! But he, being merciful, forgave their sin and destroyed them not; Often he turned back his anger and let none of his wrath be roused. R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Brothers and sisters: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

#### Gospel: Jn 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Today's Saints

### Saint Albert of Jerusalem

Also known as Albert Avogadro, Albert of Acre

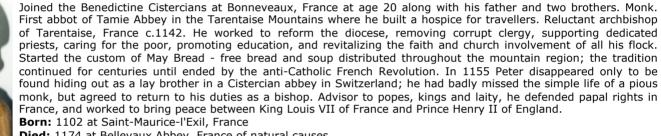


Born to a wealthy and promininent noble Italian family. Well educated, especially in theology and law. Ordained, he served as canon to Holy Cross Abbey in Mortara, Italy. Abbey prior. Bishop of Bobbio, Italy in 1184. Bishop of Vercelli, Italy. Mediated disputes between Pope Clement III and Frederick Barbarossa, and for his efforts was named Prince of the Empire. Papal legate to Northern Italy. Negotiated peace between Parma and Piacenza in 1199. Helped formulate the Rule for Saint Borcard and his hermits. This Rule later was adopted as the Rule for the Carmelites, and thus Albert is considered a co-founder of the order. Patriarch of Jerusalem in 1205 under Pope Innocent III, a position that generally led to conflict with the Muslims, and martyrdom. Since his lands were wholly in the hands of Saracens, he established his see city at Akka (Acre). Held the office nearly ten years. Well known for his involvement in both state and church matters, and as a peacemaker to the Frankish factions in his see. Summoned to serve in the General Council of the Lateran, but murdered before he could attend.

Born: 1149 at Parma, Italy as Albert Avogadro

**Died:** stabbed to death in the Church of Saint John of Acre on 14 September 1215 while part of the procession of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, killed by a disgruntled hospital administrator he had been forced to fire. **Saint Peter of Tarentaise** 





**Died:** 1174 at Bellevaux Abbey, France of natural causes **Canonized:** 1191 by Pope Celestine III.



#### Saint Jean-Gabriel-Taurin Dufresse

Entered the Society of Foreign Missions of Paris seminary in 1774, and ordained on 17 September. Missionary to Szechuan, China in 1775. Imprisoned for six months in 1784 during a government persecution of Christians. He was re-assigned to Macao, but return to the Chinese missions in 1788. Titular bishop of Thabraca and co-adjutor Vicar Apostolic of Se-Ciuen, China on 24 July 1798; he succeeded to the Vicar Apostolic on 15 November 1801. Spent the next 15 years in constant danger during the persecution of Christians and foreigners. Betrayed to the Chinese authorities by a scared native Christian. Martyr.

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**Born:** 8 December 1750 at Ville-de-Lezoux, diocese of Clermont, Puy-de-Dôme, France **Died:** beheaded in 14 September 1815 at Chengdu, Sichuan, China, head attached to a pole and his body left exposed for three days as a warning to others, then buried by local Christians **Canonized:** 1 October 2000 by Pope John Paul II.



